The cost of production taken into account includes not only the paid-out costs but also imputed value of owned assets including land and family labour for which the farmer does not incur cash expenses. While fixing the support prices, it is ensured that these prices cover._ cost of production and also provide a reasonable margin of profit.

Prices of power tillers and other agricultural implements

2159. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that power tillers and other agricultural implements produced in the country are available at a cheaper rate in other countries; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV); (a) and (b) Prices of power tillers and agricultural implements produced in the country depend upon their capabilities and technical specifications. Further the incidence of levies and export incentives for Indian manufactured products has to he assessed on individual item basis. Therefore, a comparison of prices is not possible unless the items are specified and technical specifications are known.

दृष्टिहीन व्यक्तियों को रोजगार

2160. श्री सन्तोष बागड़ोदिया : क्या कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान विकलांग व्यक्तियों में से ऐसे दृष्टिहीन व्यक्तियों की वर्षवार संख्या कितनी है जिन्हें रोजगार उपलब्ध किया गया है ?

कल्याण मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्रीमती सुमति ओरांव) : रोजगार कार्यालयों तथा विकलांगों के लिए विशेष रोजगार कार्यालयों के माध्यम से जिन नेत्रहीन व्यक्तियों को रोजगार प्रदान किया गया उनकी संख्या 1985 में 385, 1986 में 529 और 1987 (जून, 1987 तक) में 168 थी। इसके अतिरिक्त, दिल्ली तथा इसके आसपास विभिन्न केन्द्रीय मंत्रालयों/विभागों और सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उपक्रमों में काफी समय से खाली पड़ी रिक्तियों को भरने के लिए शुरू की गई विशेष भर्ती के परिणामस्वरूप, 1987 के दौरान, 269 नेत्रहीनों की नियुक्ति हेतु सिफारिश की गई थी।

Supply of drinking water

2161. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study made by the World Bank recently revealed that more than 1.5 billion people, about one third of the World population, still have no access to safe drinking water and India ranks first among these country;

(b) whether any measures have also been suggested in the study report for providing drinking water to such people;

(c) if so, what are the deta'lfl thereof and whether Government have examined these suggestions; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken t_0 implement these measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEV* LOPMENT (SHRI DALRIR SINGH): (a) to (d) This Ministry is not aware of such a study by the World Bank, as it hag not been received so far. However, on the basis of the information obtained from the State Governments and the Union Territories, more than 79 per cent of the urbaft